



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 394

February Session, 2002

**AN ACT REQUIRING PROPANE GAS CONTAINERS TO BE
EQUIPPED WITH AN OVERFILLING PREVENTION DEVICE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 29-335a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) As used in this section, "propane gas container" means a
4 refillable tank or cylinder containing propane gas which has a cylinder
5 valve attached thereto, but does not include a fuel tank which is a
6 component part of a vehicle; "container valve plug" means a fully
7 threaded plug made of substantial material fitted with a large hexagon
8 nut or hand wheel for tightening which is designed to prevent the flow
9 of gas if the container valve is opened and to release trapped pressure
10 except when fully inserted in the container; [and] "approved quick
11 closing coupling" means a valve assembly provided with a quick
12 coupling device which shuts off the flow of propane gas when not
13 connected for use; "overfilling prevention device" means a safety
14 device designed to provide an automatic means to prevent the filling
15 of a propane gas container in excess of the maximum permitted filling
16 limit; and "fixed maximum liquid level gauge" means a liquid level
17 gauge that has a positive shutoff valve and is designed to indicate the
18 liquid level at which the propane gas container is filled to its
19 maximum permitted filling limit.

20 (b) (1) No propane gas filling facility may release a propane gas

21 container to a customer for transportation in any enclosed vehicle
 22 unless a fitted container valve plug is fully inserted in the container or
 23 the container has an approved quick closing coupling. No person may
 24 [(1)] (A) transport a propane gas container in any enclosed vehicle
 25 unless a fitted container valve plug is fully inserted in the container, or
 26 the container has an approved quick closing coupling, and such
 27 container is transported in an upright position and secured to prevent
 28 movement, [(2)] (B) leave a propane gas container unattended in any
 29 vehicle or in an area accessible to the public unless a fitted container
 30 valve plug is fully inserted in the container or the container has an
 31 approved quick closing coupling, or [(3)] (C) remove a container valve
 32 plug from a propane gas container except to fill the container or
 33 connect such container for use. (2) On and after April 1, 2002, no
 34 propane gas filling or cylinder exchange facility may fill or resell any
 35 propane gas container with a capacity of four to forty pounds,
 36 inclusive, unless the container is equipped with an overfilling
 37 prevention device and a fixed maximum liquid level gauge. The
 38 provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to any propane gas
 39 container used in any forklift powered by propane gas or for industrial
 40 welding and cutting gases.

41 (c) Any person who, by himself or by his employee or agent, or as
 42 the employee or agent of another, violates or fails to comply with any
 43 provision of this section, shall, upon a first conviction, be fined not
 44 more than five hundred dollars. Upon any subsequent conviction, any
 45 such person shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more
 46 than one thousand dollars. If death or injury results from any such
 47 violation, such person shall be fined not more than ten thousand
 48 dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

GL *Joint Favorable*